

'Covid-19 cleaning' services popular again as Omicron variant surges

by Lisa Librenjak | Monday, January 10th 2022



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MOBILE, Ala. (WPMI) — Keeping surfaces clean in a Covid-19 environment is a priority for schools and businesses.

“It was kind of like when the Omicron variant came out it was like a shift flipped again,” [Belfor](#) Mobile General Manager Rob Chapman said.

A restoration service in Mobile is back to doing Covid cleanings, something Chapman said they haven't done since Hurricane Ida hit.

"Right before the holidays and mainly right after the holidays, now it's just a lot of cleanings every night, a lot of long shift for our guys," Chapman said.

Chapman said they've been busy. For example, they had eight appointments in one day with just 10 employees last week.

“Restaurants, schools, retailers, we’re doing some industrial facilities as well. We’re not doing residential at this time,” Chapman said.

Getting a Covid cleaning is something many schools are looking into. Clarke County Schools just shut their doors, after more than 200 students, teachers, and bus drivers got Covid last week.

"It’s difficult for parents," Clarke County School District Superintendent Larry Bagley said. "We understand that but they are just going to have to work with us through this."

Bagley said in-person learning will resume Jan. 18 after custodians clean and sanitize schools with the special cleaning equipment they purchased. So what is a Covid cleaning? This is what Belfor does:

“Fogging and wiping the high touch points. Like your light switches, the tops of your desks, the tops of your chairs, anywhere you might touch,” Chapman said.

Belfor employees gear up in PPE to protect themselves, then go in with a special fog machine.

“That has to sit wet for four minutes in order to kill anything that’s on the surface,” Chapman added.

After that's done, that place is now Covid cleaned.

“We’re just happy to be able to feel like we’re making a difference,” Chapman said.